

TS #159042
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6 February 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)
THROUGH: Deputy Director (Intelligence)
SUBJECT: 117L Advisory Committee Meeting at
Ramo-Woolridge Plant, Denver,
Colorado, 3-4 February 1959

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to report that CIA representatives, Lundahl, [redacted] attended the subject meeting and were thereby able to observe and record some of the latest developments and estimates in the 117L Program. A few of the most interesting observations will be reported here and followed by the detailed report in approximately two weeks.

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2. In shorthand fashion I would note for your attention the following items:

- a. Firing Schedules now Top Secret.
- b. \$160 to \$180 million ARPA funds confirmed plus additional Air Force funds (Total maximum exceeds \$220 million).
- c. Discoverer - Biomed - recoverable series to go first.
- d. 6" Mapping single frame recoverable photography to go next in 1960.
- e. Panoramic type recoverable photography program to go in 1960.
- f. 36" electrostatic feedback photographic program accelerated six months and scheduled to go in 1960.
- g. 6" feedback photography out for the present.
- h. No combination of photography and ELINT in one package will be recommended.
- i. F1 ELINT will not go before F2 ELINT unless the latter is not ready when the Atlas series is ready to go. F3 ELINT will be accelerated.

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j. Subsystem I, the R-W Central Data Processing Center, will not be reduced but anticipates handling recovery photography in late 1960. It expects to utilize 243 personnel in 30,000 sq. ft. of floor space by October 1961 solely for the first phase type reporting

k. Much discussion centered on the interesting relationship between Recovery and Talkback and what effect a preponderance of the former would have on the size and shape of Subsystem I.

l. R-W specialists on 117L estimate receipt of some 12 million format centered framelets (35mm x 16") in 1960 and augmentation to 72 million framelets by 1965.

m. The R-W Central Data Processing Center estimates this type of reporting schedule:

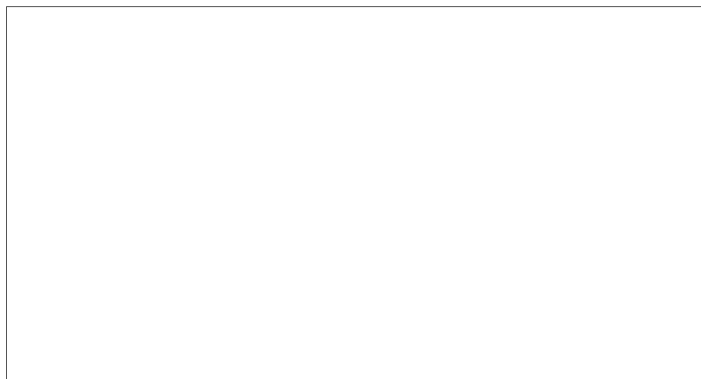
Attack Warning data - 10 min - 1 hr
Sentry orbit feedback - 50 min
Preliminary P.I. Reports - 1-2 hrs
Air weather data - 8 hrs
Mission Review Reports - 3 days

To handle data at these rates an extensive R-W computer program has been under study and development. Perhaps the largest area of discussion to date has been related to the reporting speed specifications and their realistic justification or lack thereof for embarking upon programs of expensive new computer development.

n. Present firing schedules starting in 1960 as estimated by R-W specialists would provide:

780 days of 36"r. operations.
540 days of Ferret operations.

o. Total number of targets to be looked at include:

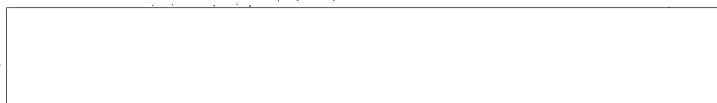


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p. 780 days of 36" operations / 80 days of 24" operations
estimated to give:



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3. The next 117L Advisory Committee Meeting will be held at the
ITEK Company in Boston, Massachusetts, on 25-26 May 1959.

4. As always, Ralph Clark and I are ready to provide additional
details or interpretations as best we can from our voluminous notes of
the committee discussions.

ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL
Director,
Photographic Intelligence Center

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